



NEWS RELEASE

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Long Beach Man Charged With Killing Neighbor

A 61-year-old man accused of fatally shooting his neighbor was charged today, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Sotero Monteon (dob 7/12/55) of Long Beach has been charged with four felony counts in case NA104976: murder, attempted murder, possession of a firearm by a felon, and possession of ammunition.

The felony complaint includes a special allegation that the defendant personally and intentionally discharged a firearm, which caused great bodily injury and death.

Additionally, the charging document alleges that Monteon was previously convicted of manslaughter in 1975 and 1982, robbery in 1990, transport/sell controlled substance in 1993, assault with a firearm in 1997, and possession of a controlled substance in 2007 and 2012.

The defendant was scheduled to be arraigned today, but the court appearance was continued to Sept. 29 in Department SO1 at the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Long Beach Branch.

Deputy District Attorney Lee Cernok, who is assigned to the case, said on Sept. 14 Monteon allegedly shot at his neighbors outside of their Long Beach apartment.

Benny Ceasar, 49, was pronounced dead at the scene. The mother of his child suffered a gunshot wound and was taken to the hospital for medical treatment.

Following the shooting, Monteon reportedly boarded a bus, but was later taken into custody.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces at least 140 years to life in state prison.

The case is being investigated by the Long Beach Police Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.